

Abstract

A TDD antenna array S-CDMA system for increasing the capacity and quality of a wireless communications is disclosed. By simultaneous exploiting the spatial and code diversities, high performance communications between a plurality of remote terminals and a base station is achieved without sacrificing system flexibility and robustness. The time-division-duplex mode together with the inherent interference immunity of S-CDMA signals allow the spatial diversity to be exploited using simple and robust beamforming rather than demanding nulling. Measurements from an array of receiving antennas at the base station are utilized to estimate spatial signatures, timing offsets, transmission powers and other propagation parameters associated with a plurality of S-CDMA terminals. Such information is then used for system synchronization, downlink beamforming, as well as handoff management. In an exemplary embodiment, the aforementioned processing is accomplished with minimum computations, thereby allowing the disclosed system to be applicable to a rapidly varying environment. Among many other inherent benefits of the present invention are large capacity and power efficiency, strong interference/fading resistance, robustness power control, and easy hand-off.